

MINUTES

Health Information Technology and Transparency Advisory Council and Ad Hoc Expert Meeting

Georgia Department of Community Health
5th Floor Board Room
January 16, 2008
9:00 A.M.- 12:00 A.M.

Members Present

Michael Heekin	Dennis White	Jack Chapman
Gayle Ransom	Laura Linn	Robert Bush
Monye Connolly	Tod Citron	Sonya Smith
Jim McClatchey	Jim Buehler	Patty Lavelly
Dr. Louvenia Rainge	Dr. Winston Price	

DCH Staff Present

Altamese Morris	Mary Cairo	Diane Manheim
Alicia McCord-Estes	Denise Hines	Sonny Munter
Rhonda Medows	Dr. Carladenise Edwards	

Chairperson Dr. Winston Price called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m., at the Georgia Department of Community Health Board Room located at 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30303. A quorum of the board was present.

The meeting commenced with Board Secretary, Patty Lavelly, recommending the approval of November 2007 minutes. A motion was made to add Robert Bush and Dr. Louvenia Range as members present and to omit Gayle Ransom as a member present. A motion was requested to amend the second paragraph from the bottom on page three to "Vice Chairman Chris Downing reported on the Health Information Transparency Standing Committee". The amended sentence and attendance records were motioned for approval, seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Chairman Dr. Price welcomed Dr. Rhonda Medows, DCH Commissioner, to the meeting. Mr. Harold "Sonny" Munter, Chief Information Officer, Department of Community Health introduced the new Department of Community Health Chief of Staff, Dr. Carladenise Edwards. Chairman Dr. Price proceeded with a formal introduction of the Board members and Ad Hoc members for the benefit of Dr. Edwards.

Robert Bush reported on the Health Information Exchange Standing Committee. The pilot projects are in progress. Criteria will be developed to evaluate the projects with an update expected from the awardees at the March 2008 meeting.

Denise Hines, Senior Project Manager, Office of HIT, gave monthly status reports on the HIE Grantees. They were as follows:

- **Chatham County-** in initiating phase; on schedule; completed tasks included holding a consortium on December 5th and contracted a HIE Project Manager to begin work in January 2008; planned tasks included development of vision statement and communication system for collaboration; issues- consultant search.
- **East Georgia Health Care, Inc.-** in planning and requirements phase; on schedule; completed tasks included conducted project kickoff, established website; identified and reviewed vendors; planned tasks included upgrading technology infrastructure, vendor demonstrations, analyzing system impacts on workflow; issues- slow down due to holidays.
- **Sumter Regional Hospital-** in initiation phase; behind schedule; completed tasks-none; planned tasks included selecting vendor for EMR and a consultant; issues- delay in opening of interim facility requiring IT resources resulting in timeline extended one month.
- **Washington County Regional Medical Center-** in planning phase; on schedule; completed tasks included meeting with collaboration members and hired IT consultant; planned tasks included identifying project vision and defining EMR, assessing current IT infrastructure and developing vendor list; issues- seeking funding for implementation.

Commissioner Meadows spoke of her concerns on Washington's County lack of funding and stated that sustainability needed to be clearly stressed to all awardees going forward.

Alicia McCord-Estes, Director, Office of HITT gave an update on the Transparency website discussing the following key points:

- Re-bid for grant
- New RFP release on January 8th
- Bidders conference to be held on January 17th
- Revised RFP Timeline

Ms. McCord-Estes also presented on Health Information Security and Privacy Collaborative (HISPC). Her overview of HISPC covered the following:

- Background information
- Collaborative project oversight, approach
- States involved
- Goals
- Common projects

Ms. McCord Estes stated that the HISPC initiative in the State of Georgia is entitled "Georgia Health Information Exchange Education and Awareness Project" and discussed in detail the goals, objectives, marketing campaign, privacy & security as well as the outcomes and tools. Mr. Munter suggested the formation of a subcommittee to assist with the HISPC initiative.

Denise Hines gave a HITT Strategic Plan Overview detailing its first year accomplishments. Some of the listed accomplishments were:

- Creation of HITT Advisory Board
- Creation and Award of 4 HIE Grants
- Completion of DCH staff training on HIE
- Bidding and receipt of \$3.9 million in federal funds for transparency website

Ms. Hines also detailed objectives for the HITT Advisory Board and DCH for year 2 with those initiatives being as follows:

HITT

- Maintain and Promote the Georgia HIE Grant Program
- Develop and Promote the value of HIE to the state, consumers and providers
- Continue the Transparency Initiative
- Conduct HITT Outreach and Consumer Education

DCH

- Position DCH as industry leader in HIT
- Initiate E-prescribing activities

Ms. Hines closed with a summation of HITT objectives for years five (5) and ten(10).

Dr. Jack Chapman made a request to approve the HITT Strategic Plan with the option of modifications to be made in the near future. Chairman Dr. Price formally motioned the approval of the HITT Strategic Plan and recommended the formation of a subcommittee to modify the plan. The motion was seconded and approved.

There being no further business to be brought before the Health Information Technology and Transparency Advisory Board Meeting at its January 16, 2008 session, Chairman Dr. Winston Price adjourned the meeting at 12:11 p.m.

THESE MINUTES ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE
 _____ DAY OF _____, 2008.

 Winston Price, Chairperson

 Chris Downing, Vice Chairperson